

Serial No.: 10/660,177  
Group Art Unit: 3673

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- I. (currently amended) A flexible drag stretcher arranged for storage and transport in a tightly rolled, compact cylindrical storage condition and for unrolling into an operative ,elongated stretcher condition for protectively securing an injured person positioned in a reclining condition thereon for dragged extrication from the scene of an injury, the drag
- 5 stretcher comprising:
- a) a longitudinally elongated flexible center base panel comprising a longitudinally elongated flexible sheet formed of a selected flexible synthetic thermoplastic resin material and defined by opposite ~~longitudinally~~ longitudinal head and base ends and opposite lateral side edges, said center base panel having a selected overall length sufficient to underlie at least the
- 10 entire length of the head and torso body portion of a person positioned in a reclining condition thereon, said center base panel having sufficient flexibility to allow the center base panel to be rolled in its longitudinal direction into a tightly rolled, compact, cylindrical storage condition having an overall cylinder length approximatly equal to the width of the center base panel between said opposite lateral side edges thereof.
- 15 b) a longitudinally elongated, flexible side torso flap member associated with each opposite lateral side edge of the center base panel, each said flap member comprising a

**Serial No.: 10/660,177**

**Group Art Unit: 3673**

- longitudinally elongated sheet formed of a selected, flexible synthetic thermoplastic resin material and having a longitudinally extending lateral side edge arranged for confronting disposition with along a portion of the length of a corresponding lateral side edge of said
- 20 center base panel, each side torso flap member configured for engaging only the torso body portion of a person positioned in a reclining condition on the underlying center base panel, each said side torso flap member having sufficient flexibility to allow rolling of the flap member in the direction of the longitudinally extending lateral side edge thereof,
- c) flexible hinge means for interconnecting said center base panel and said side
- 25 torso flap members in connected but separated condition, for free pivoting movement of said side torso flap members about an axis extending substantially along the confronting edges of said flap members with said lateral side edges of the center base panel, for hinged movement of the flap members between a folded, storage position freely overlying and substantially resting upon the center base panel and an extended position substantially projecting outwardly
- 30 from the lateral side edges of the center base panel, said flexible hinge means also for flexibly connecting said side torso flap members and to said center base panel permitting for rolling of the interconnected center base panel and overlying side flap members disposed in said, folded, storage position in the longitudinal direction and of the center base panel into a tight cylindrical roll condition for storage and transport,said tight cylindrical roll condition containing
- 35 said side torso flap members therein and having an overall cylinder length substantially equal to

**Serial No.: 10/660,177**

**Group Art Unit: 3673**

the width of the center base panel defined by said opposite lateral side edges thereof,

d) flexible torso strap members releasably and adjustably interengaging the opposite side torso flap members for overlying the torso of a person positioned in a reclining condition on the center base panel and for cinchably drawing the opposite side torso flap  
40 members toward each other against the sides of the torso of a person to protectively secure the person on the stretcher, and

e) a hand grasp member associated with the longitudinal head end of the center base panel for grasping by a rescuing person to facilitate the dragging of the stretcher with an injured person secured thereon.

2. (original) The drag stretcher of claim 1 wherein said flexible hinge means includes lengths of flexible cord material connecting the center base panel and each side torso flap member together at longitudinally spaced apart positions adjacent to and along the confronting edges of each side torso flap member and the center base panel.

3. (original) The drag stretcher of claim 1 wherein said center base panel has a length selected to position said longitudinal base end adjacent the crotch area of a person positioned in a reclining condition on the center base panel, and said base end mounts, intermediate said lateral side edges, one end of a pair of groin straps configured for extension  
5 upwardly therefrom between the legs of the person for releasable connection at their opposite ends to the opposite side torso flap members whereby to secure a person against longitudinal movement off of the base longitudinal end of the center base panel during

**Serial No.: 10/660,177**

**Group Art Unit: 3673**

operation of the drag stretcher.

4. (original) The drag stretcher of claim 1 wherein said center base panel has a selected length sufficient to underlie the entire length of the head, torso body portion, legs and feet of a person positioned in the reclining position thereon, and flexible leg strap members are configured to releasably interengage opposite lateral side edges of the center base panel

5 underlying the legs of a person thereon for overlying and releasably and cinchably securing the legs in position on the center base panel during operation of the stretcher.